

### Remarks

Claim 1 has been amended to exclude metal filters and to include a specific process for making the antimicrobial sand. Claim 1 should now meet the Examiner's requirement and therefore be allowable. Claims 2, 3, 4, are cancelled. Claims 8,9, and 11 are directly or indirectly dependent on claim 1, further limiting the scope of claim 1, therefore should be allowable, too.

The Examiner is reminded of the withdrawal of the requirement of a new declaration for the divisional allowed case 10/211,811. Applicant requests the same withdrawal of the requirement of a new declaration in the present application.. A copy of the correspondence of this matter is attached for your record. A telephonic interview with the Examiner on January 12, 2004 is appreciated.

Respectfully submitted for

For: Shiau et al

By: Alice L. Chen

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